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I need a colonoscopy[colon-o-scopy]

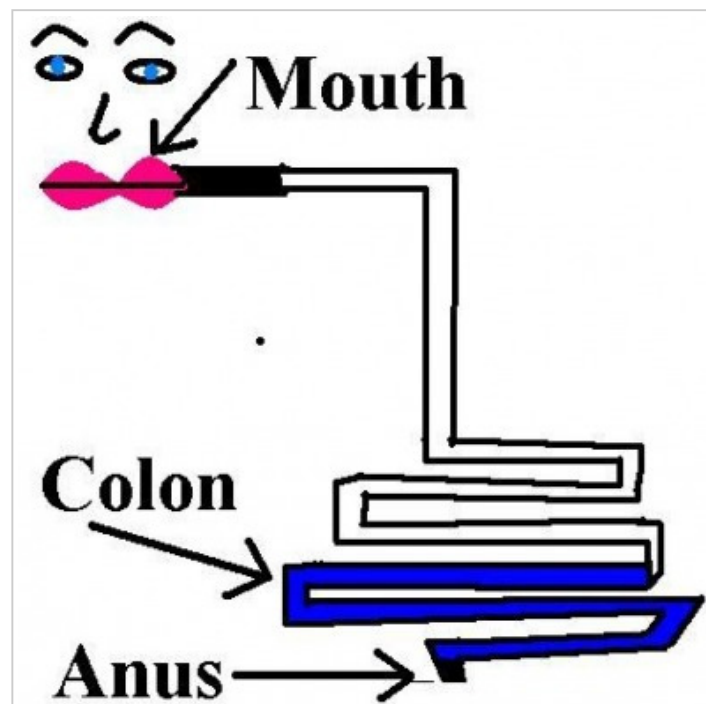
Day and date of colonoscopy _____ Time: _____

What is a colon?

The food that we eat goes into a long tube.

The start of the tube is the mouth and the end is anus. We pass gas and stool from the anus.

Colon is the part of the tube just above the anus. See the picture below.



What is colonoscopy (colon-o-scopy)?

Colonoscopy (colon-o-scopy) means looking at the colon.

How is colonoscopy (colon-o-scopy) done?

It is a small and safe test.

You get a medication before the test to put you to sleep. A small tube is passed through the anus to look at the colon.

Why do I need this test?

This test helps look for any thing which is not normal. It can be a simple growth from the wall of the colon. Such a growth is called polyp. It can be something serious like cancer.

Your doctor may ask for this test if you are having bleeding in your stool or loose stool. This test is often done after the age of 50 to look for cancer.

Are there any serious risks of this test?

Serious risks are rare. They are

1. Bleeding from the colon.
2. A hole in the colon which may need to be repaired.
3. Death

How can I prepare for the test?

Drink juices, milk and clear liquids, one to three days before the test.

You will take pills or a clear drink to clean your colon. You will have many loose stools from these pills and the clear drink.

On the night before your test do not eat anything after midnight. you will need to have an empty colon before the test.

Are there any medications that I need to stop before the test?

Please talk to your doctor about your medications. You may need to stop some of your medications.

What do I do after colonoscopy (colon-o-scopy)?

Talk to your doctor to find the result of the test.

Do not drive or work after the test. Try to relax.

If you have more questions please talk to your doctor